



February, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 2

Copyright RCT

FROM THE EDITOR...**IN THIS ISSUE**

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Hello again from beautiful downtown Lakewood!

If you are reading this, you're in for another fun-packed "Loggers Bark"!

In this issue, along with the usual reports and club stuff, we have many photo's from the recent Freeze Your Buns Off (FYBO) field day. A great time was had by all who participated, even if it was very, very cold. Speaking only for myself, that was the coldest I've been since I was in Uncle Sam's camping club back in the early '70's!

A great write up of the festivities begins on page 12, and many pictures of the event are scattered throughout this issue. So many, in fact, that I will be running more in upcoming issues.

A great big thank you also goes out to the club members who stopped by, even if it was only for a moment. We appreciate your support and participation.

The QSL of the month from Bob K7MXE is a result of his SWL report on the HAARP project up in Alaska. I missed this event, but for those of you who monitored, this is the QSL. I heard that the echo's of this event were heard all over the dark side of the planet!

Science at work!

Also this month, the HF bands are slowly coming back. The new sunspot cycle has apparently started off with some spots being reported on "ol Sol this week, Can good times on ten meters be close at hand? I don't know about Y'All, but I can hardly wait for the upper bands to open back up again.

In the meantime, those of us who have low band capability have been working all around the world on 40, 80, and yes, even 160 meters! Get it while you can!

73 All, Gary WG7X

BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2 January , 2007

The Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order.

Officers and board members present:

President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF

Vice President: Jill Palmer -- K7JIL

Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Treasurer: Gary McFadden -- K7UPG

Board Member: Al Burleson K7HW

Board Member: Alan Lentz -- W7AML

Board Member: Bob Purdom -- AD7LJ

Board Member: Frank Palmer -- AC7LJ

Board Member: Gary Kohtala -- K7EK

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 18 names on the attendance roster.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Were approved as coordinated by e-mail.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Correspondence: In addition to the normal bank statements, utility bills and club newsletters, our State Sales Tax notice, and Property Insurance Statements were received.

A copy of the correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden -- K7UPG reported the balances for the Checking, VE and Hamfest accounts. The Roofing Contractor has been paid for ½ of the contract amount as approved.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to authorize the Treasurer to pay all normal and recurring bills.

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Facilities: Steve, KD7UBE reported that the roofing contractor has materials in hand and we are moving the generator from the garage temporarily to permit storage of the shingles while the roofing is accomplished. An additional cost of \$ 50.00 has accrued from our request to use 4 inch flashing instead of the bid 2 inch.

Library Report: Doug Oakman AD7AV provided a complete Library report and 2008 budget proposal. He also tabled the concept of combining the Museum and Library functions into one operation due to their common interests and goals. The suggestion was to create a "Radio Club of Tacoma Historical Society" to jointly manage these two key Club activities. The purpose of this combined entity would be to preserve the history and traditions of Amateur Radio and the Radio Club of Tacoma. There followed a discussion which among other areas noted that a change in our bylaws would likely be required to accommodate such a change.

The proposed Library Report included a review of past progress and future goals along with a proposed budget for acquiring desired historic and current technical books. The budget contained estimated costs and presented as a set of minimum and expanded listings. The Budget request ranged from a \$ 730 minimum to a \$ 1,270 optimum package for 2008.

The Library report also included a donated computer and need for MS Office Software to support library cataloging, search, on line reading, labeling and record keeping.

A copy of the Library report is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

RCT E-Bay Account Proposal: Rich Patrick KR7W followed AD7AV's Library report with a proposal for establishment of an RCT E-Bay Account to facilitate and manage the accession and disposition of club property. The club suffers from a lack of storage space together with an excess of equipment and other property for which we have no current or foreseeable need. For example we have a large volume of tubes which is believed to have considerable market value, but is of little use to us. The establishment of a Club E-Bay account and associated bank account would facilitate the conversion of un-needed equipment and other property to capital for club operations. This proposal prompted considerable discussion; including what might be the procedures and policies for prudent management of such an operation, how and who identifies property for disposal, the Board's role in approving such dispositions and accessions, the membership's options in such a process, the accounting, reporting and auditing of the E-bay and related bank accounts. The proposal recommends starting the E-Bay Bank Account with a \$ 250.00 balance.

Radio Club of Tacoma

A motion was made, seconded and passed to establish an RCT E-bay and Bank Account to handle the sale and purchase of Club property in accordance with a policy and procedures developed and approved by the Board.

The President appointed Rich Patrick KR7W to chair the E-Bay Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Time did not permit

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Valentines Day Potluck is planned for Saturday, February 16th

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Library Holdings, QST Acquisitions: Rick KE7EMW keyed on the Library report to announce that he had used the Library's needed list to research and acquire several QST's on our void list. Rich proposes to sponsor several himself and is looking for sponsors for the others to be donated to the Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm

APPROVED RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON
KD4VOM RANDY THOMPSON AD7FF
Secretary
President

FYBO PHOTO!

**PETE, KK7QW AT THE KEY DURING FYBO
2008**



Logger's Bark February 2008

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

9 January, 2008

The 9 January 2008 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF

Vice President: Jill Palmer -- K7JIL

Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Treasurer: Gary McFadden -- K7UPG

Board Member: Alan Lentz -- W7AML

Board Member: Al Burleson -- K7HW

Board Member: Frank Palmer -- AC7JY

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 47 names on the attendance roster

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Randy Thompson AD7FF

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed and Guests welcomed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

There were no reports of Illness or Silent Key

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Correspondence: The Secretary reported the usual banks statements and utility bills along with several QSL cards and club newsletters. In addition our annual Personal Property Tax report and Property Insurance Policy statement have been received.

Membership: Jill Palmer -- K7JIL and Rick KE7EMW reported our membership at year's end 2007 was 297. Rick also reported that the membership renewal packages were in the mail

Facilities: Steve Blacksten K7UBE reported that the roof replacement was 50% completed and should be finished within a week or so.

Awards: Nick Winter K7MO presented Loggers Bark award to Robert KD7YDL who achieved 9 of his 10 contacts on ten meters. Rick KE7EMW also picked up more endorsements.

Radio Club of Tacoma

VE Operations: John Clarke AC7WW reported Seventeen candidates and twelve Volunteer Examiners gathered at the Radio Club of Tacoma's clubhouse on Tuesday, January 8th 2008. All of the candidates went home with a new license or an upgrade. Thirty-two elements were graded with eighteen being passed.

Fourteen new Technician class amateurs joined the Amateur Radio Service. Two candidates advanced to General and one advanced to Extra class.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time: Harry--W7HSA, Steve --KD7UBE, Al -- K7HW, Al, AC7BURich, KK7VH, Jon--AD7AW, Casey -- WY7V, Bud--KE7GB, Steve--AD7AB, Larry--AB7FJ, and Roland -- WA7P

Training: Larry KD4VOM provided a report from Steve AD7AV on this month's Technician Class. 11 Students completed the two day January class, and according to John, all the class members that attended this month's VE session achieved licenses.

PROGRAM: Ken Gibson, N7ELF introduced our own George Wood KA7HGE who took us on colorful and interesting tour of Amateur Radio in Southeast Asia. George spent over 30 years on the Mission field and was an active Amateur Radio operator. His telling of these volatile years in Vietnam, Laos and Thailand was fascinating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Straight Key: Rich KR7W and Chuck AD7QN reported on yet another successful and enjoyable Straight Key night. The Old Oak Rig performed well while several members pounded brass while making 17 contacts, some as far away as Ohio and Arizona.

FYBO: Chuck AC7QN reminded folks of the Annual QRP (SSB or CW) Freeze Your Buns Off contest coming up on Saturday, February 2nd from 8 to 4 pm. Probably at Point Defiance again this year.

HRO Catalogs: Jill K7JIL thanked Roger KE7EMV for bringing back a large box of HRO catalogs to distribute.

Discussion Topics:

General Class: Roger KE7EMW asked when the next General Class might be coming, and John AC7WW said he thought Steve AD7AB was putting together a course, but no date certain at this point.

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Salmon Run: Nick K7MO said that the Salmon Run results were posted on the WWDX website, check it out... and he showed a "find" from McClendon's...a plastic telescoping pole intended to assist in putting up outside Christmas lights, but would work well as an antenna support... On clearance sale...

Door Prize:

ARRL Frequently Asked Questions Book/ ??

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm

APPROVED:

RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON KD4VOM
RANDY THOMPSON AD7FF

Secretary
President

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES **23 January, 2008**

The 23 January 2008 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer -- K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden -- K7UPG
Board Member: Alan Lentz -- W7AML
Board Member: Al Burleson -- K7HW
Board Member: Frank Palmer -- AC7JY

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of the minutes. There were 51 names on the attendance roster and 3 Guests

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Randy Thompson AD7FF

INTRODUCTIONS:

Guests Mark Yordy W7BBO, Marina Zuetell N7LSL and Don Marlette KC7TDG were welcomed and self introductions were completed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Jill K7JIL reports that sympathy cards were sent to Rick Leary W7LKG on the passing of his XYL, and to the families of Silent Keys Arthur Edward Allen – KD7KQE, and Edward E Harwood, Sr. – KA7LGV

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence:

Larry reported the usual utility bills, bank statements, some QSL cards and a few more Salmon Run donations. *The correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG – Made Available

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW announced that the annual membership renewal packages are in the mail and some have returned already. Please complete the survey, and send them back as soon as possible. Remember to renew your ARRL membership through the club... Your receipt will be printed on the same form as your new membership card so cut it out, don't throw it away...

Facilities: Steve KD7UBE reported that the new clubhouse roof has been finished, thanks to your Salmon Run fund drive contributions.

Library Report: Doug Oakman AD7AV reported on progress with the Library area remodeling, and the Club's recent acquisition of all missing QSTs from 1921 to 1990 thanks to a find by Al Burleson K7HW and rapid response by Doug and Al N7OMS.

The QST's still needed are in the 1916 to 1920 range and will probably only be acquired from an estate sale, so keep our library in mind. Although we had hoped to acquire an ARRL CD version, those are no longer being produced. The Library is looking to complete its collection of ARRL Handbooks, we have Doc Spike's and need more.

Lynn Neece K7OKS recommended acquisition of "Ham Radio Magazine" which although no longer published has good technical and how to articles. Some may be found on CD.

PROGRAM: Tonight's "Medical Services Emergency Communications" program was presented by Marina Zuetell N7LSL who is the ARES District "M" Emergency Coordinator for Western Washington. Marina provided a detailed explanation of the need and development of medical services emergency communications as well as an extensive description of the structure and operations of the Medical Services communications support in Washington State, and particularly in King and Pierce County. Marina provided information on the training prerequisites required to participate in the effort and referred members to Jon Hamilton, AD7AW who is the membership chair of the Medical Services Emergency Communications Team. Additional qualifying and training information was provided by Don Marlette KC7TDG who is the Pierce County Medical Services Emergency Communications Team Coordinator. Marina recommended attendance at the upcoming Communications Academy to be held at the Seattle Community College on 5 and 6 April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Program: Ken N7ELF thanked Marina and Don for tonight's presentation and noted that the 13 February Program has been changed to Nick Winter K7MO's presentation of the Salmon Run Report and activities.

Century CW Club Special Event: Rick KR7W reported that Al N7OMS has arranged for a Special Event Call K2A using the W7OS station on Sunday from 3 to 6 pm. This CW event promises to be fun and "Old Chirpy" is expected to warm the museum with tubes that glow and brass pounding by the crew.

10 Meter Net: Lynn K7OKS announced that a scheduling conflict prevents him from running the 10 meter net this Sunday, but that shouldn't keep the net from operating.

Refreshments and Open House: Rich N7ANF announced that he will be unable to cover the meeting refreshments and open house commitments for a couple of months. He solicited help in covering the meetings and expects someone to step up for the Open House Saturday events.

Valentines Potluck: Jill K7JIL announced plans are underway for a 16 February Valentines Day Potluck at the Club... More information as details are refined.

Radio Club of Tacoma

FYBO: Rich KR7W and Chuck AC7QN are sponsoring the annual FYBO (Freeze Your Buns Off) Aka the Winter QRP Field Day is planned for February 2nd from 8 to 4pm at Pt Defiance. Come participate, CW/SSB and QRP... Bring warm clothing.

Door Prize:

The Single Channel Scanner was won by our own Gary McFadden K7UPG

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm

APPROVED RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON
KD4VOM RANDY THOMPSON AD7FF
Secretary
President

CLUB HISTORIAN REPORTS

By Rick KE7EMW

For those who feel a rush of club-pride at historic references...

The following is an excerpt from the article in the latest issue of QST (Feb 2008) titled "Evolution of the Parasitic Beam Antenna" page 58, right-hand column, half-way down. The time-frame is 1928.

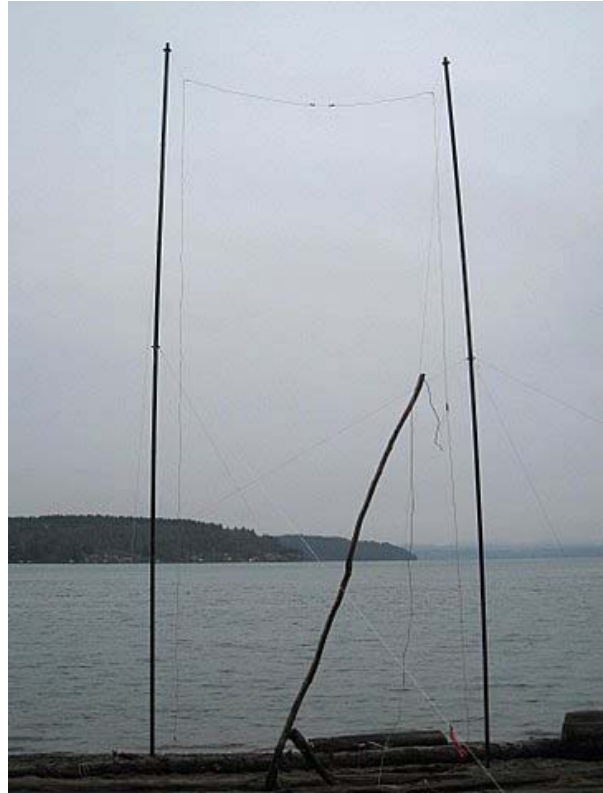
During the month of September the transmitter was operated on schedule with listeners in Australia, but during the first two transmissions no reports from Australia were received. The signals however, were reported R6 by 7ACS at Tacoma, Washington, on the West Coast of the USA.

Curiosity got the best of me and I checked the database. Mr. Eugene A. Piety – W7ACS was RCT #169 who first joined the Radio Club of Tacoma on February 16, 1926.

Ken Keigley is member # 199 (now age 97) first joined the RCT in 1929. Perhaps he knew of this event and could expand on it a little.

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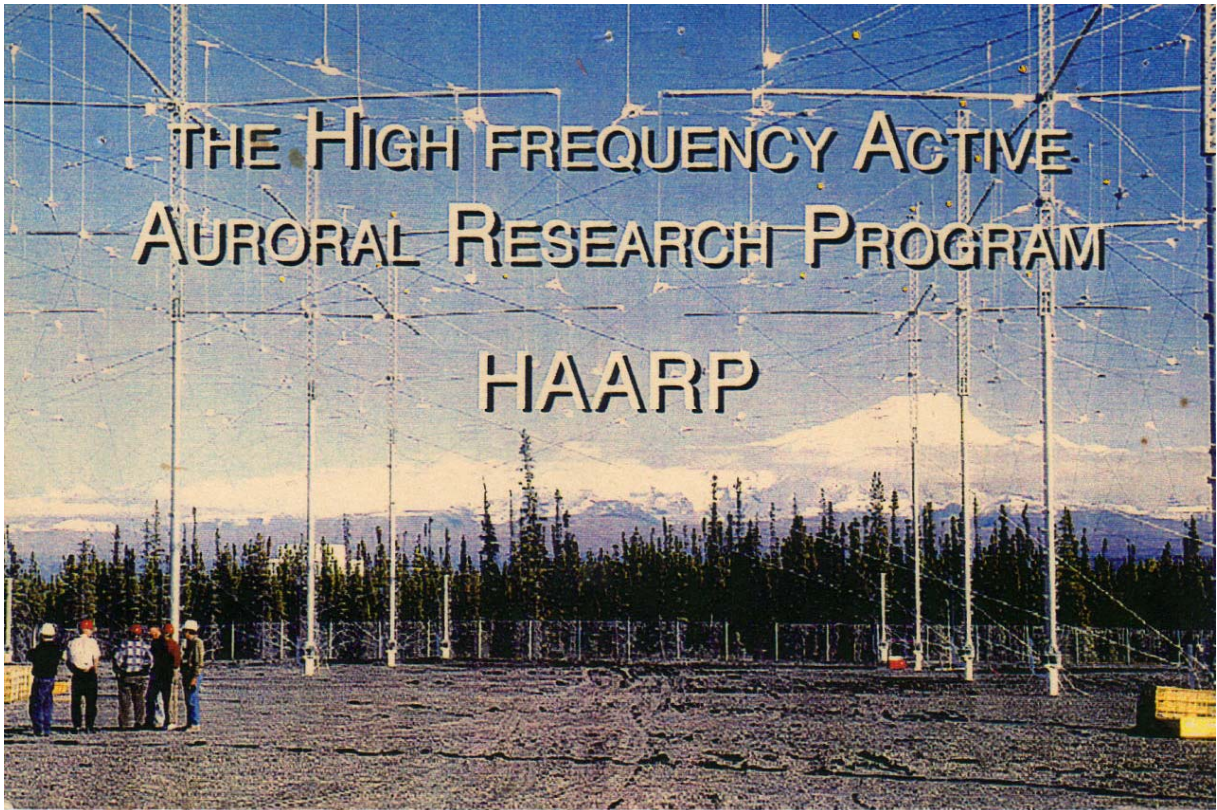
MORE FYBO 2008 PHOTO'S!



THE "MIGHTY MOXON" ANTENNA

If you look closely, you can see the two elements, one on the left (reflector) and the driven element on the right. Below, Chuck AC7QN adjusts the Moxon.



**QSL OF THE MONTH
BOB K7MXE**

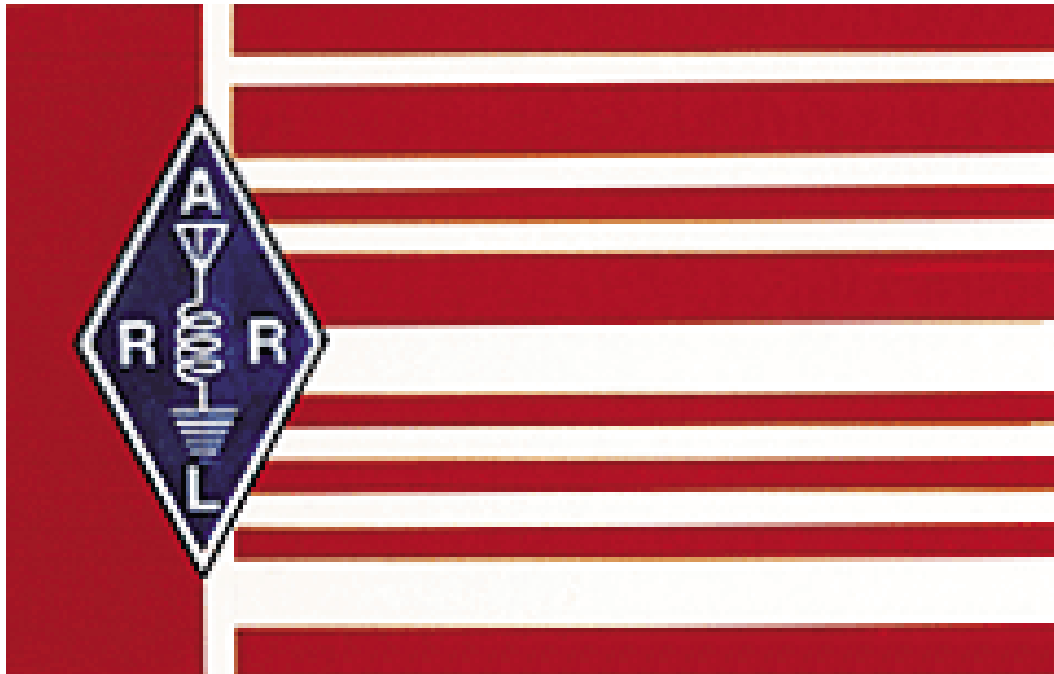
Thank you for your participation in the HAARP-LWA Moon Bounce experiments of 19 and 20 January 2008. We have received over 1500 reports from amateur radio hams throughout the USA and other countries, including Sweden, Finland, Czech Republic, Italy, Russia, Ukraine, Argentina, Australia, Marshall Islands, Hawaii, and Japan. We apologize if we have not listed your country; we have not yet been able to review all reports. These reports will help us to understand the propagation characteristics of the HAARP skywave and lunar echoes. As we review your reports we plan to post on the HAARP website further information learned from these experiments.

If you would like a QSL card confirmation of your reception, please send us your card with the reception details to our address:

HAARP Research Facility
Milepost 11.3, PO Box 271
Gakona, AK 99586

Trivia corner: Does anyone here know what the bars on the ARRL flag represent?

Send your answers to: wg7x at ARRL dot net. Winners get something... Dunno what yet, but something...



CONTEST WINNERS!

**JOE, K7AWJ
KURT W7KMH**

FOR THE REST OF YOU...

THE BARS REPRESENT THE LETTER Q, S AND T
SENT IN MORSE CODE!

THANKS TO THOSE WHO REPLIED, AND MAYBE THERE'LL BE ANOTHER
TRIVIA QUIZ SOON!

WATCH THIS SPACE!!

Dateline: February 2008

Sparky's "View from the Shack"

This and that, around the club, and more...

These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

So, with little fanfare and less expectations, to infinity, and beyond...

A little editorial philosophy

While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.

- The Year Ahead
- Salmon Run Pays Off!
- K2A Straight Key Century Club Event
- Hamfest, time to get started
- Around the Shack...

"Sparky" welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs.

- *That sed, we cast off on a new voyage in uncharted waters.*

The Year Ahead... and new beginnings

Well most of us have compromised our New Year's resolutions by now I suppose, but hope springs eternal...Of course there are many months ahead and still time to do some planning. If you read last months Sparky notes, you must realize that it "takes a village" to make the RCT go. By the time you read this those intrepid Freeze Your Buns Off folks have pounded brass with mittens and once more challenged the elements to make their point/s).

The other day Sparky heard something very interesting. Do you know what the origins of the word "Amateur" were? Me neither, but it comes from the Latin for "For the Love Of" seems to me a very apt description of those of us who pursue the hobby...

Sparky is informed that the contesters among us are busily plotting to expand the Club's radio-active program. N7OMS is purported to be the spark behind this new push, emblazoned by his recent success with the grand Salmon Run exercise. Al expects to see the venerable W7DK HF station much more busy, and encouraging the timid and wondering to step up and learn from the fireballs...



Salmon Run pays off big time...

The windows which were installed last year were hard to miss and drew kudos from many. Not so with the new roof. Thanks to Steve KD7UBE who honchoed the project the Radio Club of Tacoma is sporting a brand new roof... Most of us don't look up at the

roof that easily, but take time to check out our new cover and thank Steve for helping to make it happen.

Here's a shot taken in late January of the clubhouse sporting its brand new cover



Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) K2A Special Event

N7OMS is at it again... Al Ferguson, not comfortable to rest on his laurels, continues to pursue getting the club and its members more active "on the air". Al arranged for the 27 January Straight Key Century Club CW special event, complete with "Old Chirpy" wailing away as the venerable club brass pounding team kept tradition alive and had a great time in the process. Rich, KR7W; Pete, KK7QW; Chuck AC7QN; Al, K7HW; Hal K7PUC; Worth, W7WG; Al N7OMS; Morel W6LIX; Harry, W7HSA; Pat, WT7N; Nick, K7MO; Larry, KD4VOM; Clark (CT) N7UH and Bob KE7ECQ gathered around to hit the key, watch, critique technique or just munch on the goodies.



Hamfest, time to kick off this year's program

Although Hamfest comes in August, the getting ready starts early in the year. Reservations must be made, ARRL sanction secured, flyers prepared, vendors notified, and announcements sent out to all the folks we hope will come. Coming up soon should be our planning meeting to go over the who does

what and when list. The Hamfest an important part of the Club, so when the meeting is announced, Sparky hopes you will show and offer to help make things happen.

Around the Shack...

Jill K7JIL is once again promoting our Valentine's Day Social... This year it's on February 17th so plenty of time to plan. Bring whatever you like to eat and a smile. It's always a blast.

Sparky notes — a bit of history now adorns our classroom/meeting room wall. Thanks to Al K7PUC, a couple of historic newspaper clippings on the Radio Club of Tacoma are enshrined for all to see. Thanks Al...



Programs moving right along...

Most of you know we are privileged to have Ken Gibson N7ELF leading our meeting programs effort. Sparky has heard that some nifty new ideas are in the works. The Program Team is seriously considering a couple of important projects; A Get On The Air (GOTA) program, aimed at having Saturday morning seminars/programs designed to answer basic operating and technical questions — designed to bridge the gap between I have a call, and using it to explore the spectrum.

The second focus area is a look at Emergency Operations. This field of historical importance to Amateurs, has undergone major changes as governmental agencies and service organizations have responded to the lessons learned from such catastrophic events as 9-11, Katrina, Southern California wildfires and many others, some very close to home. These Saturday morning programs will address the changes and how Club members who want to engage can get the training and certifications needed to participate successfully in disaster operations.

Sparky

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing...

YET MORE FYBO PHOTO'S



FYBO 2008... NICE WX... BIG TURN-OUT... BIG FUN FOR ALL by Rich KR7W

Again... Chuck AC7QN and Rich KR7W set up shop at Pt. Defiance Park's Owen Beach in the picnic shelter for the Arizona Scorpion's **Freeze Your Buns Off** Winter Field Day QRP contest. (FYBO)

Operating in the Multi-Operator, Multi-Transmitter class... they set up the usual two stations: One for SSB and the other for CW operations. The SSB station operated only on 20 Meters. The CW station operated on 20 and 40 Meters.

Operating right next to the salt water gives the QRP stations a huge advantage with propagation due to the high reflectivity of the salt water ground.

This year Chuck returned with his 20 Meter vertical Moxon antenna. Set up right next to the water... it stood prominently tall for all to view. A fifty foot coax jumper brought radio waves galore into Chuck's Yaesu FT-817 for 20 Meter SSB operation.

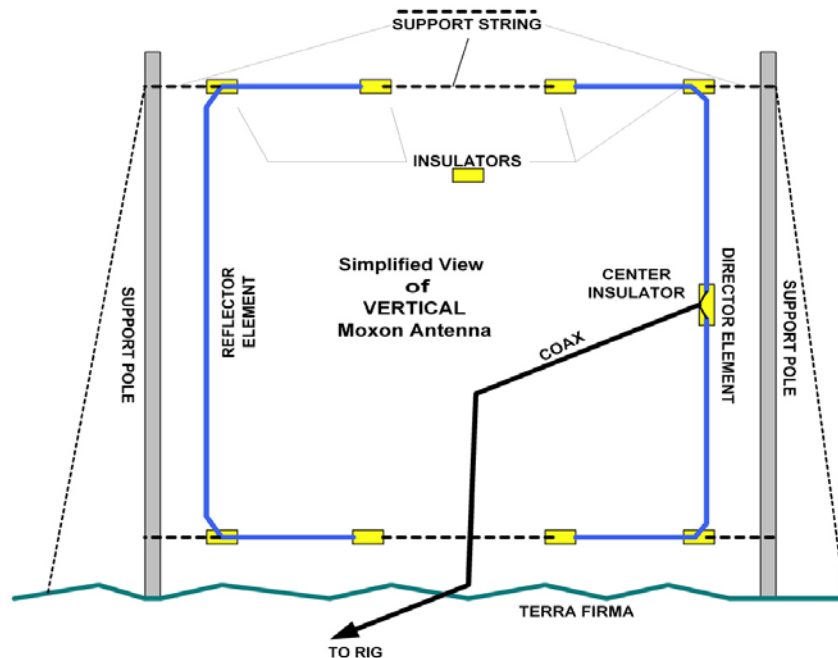
Learning from bad experiences from FYBO 2007... Rich built a coax fed 20 / 40 Meter dipole and erected it 40 ft high in the trees up the steep hill behind the picnic shelter. The idea was to create some separation between the two stations antennas. This antenna was fed with 210 feet of coax jumpers. Wondering about coax loss? Slide-rule calculations say that's about 1 dB of loss at 14 MHz and 6/10 dB loss at 7 MHz. Since Rich's Yaesu FT-817 outputs 6 watts - 1dB loss = 5 watts of power at the antenna.

Upon arrival at 0800 Chuck, Gary WG7X, and Pete KK7QW erected Chucks fiberglass poles to create the support structure for the vertical Moxon antenna. Rich unraveled the coax jumpers and fed them up the hill to the dipole antenna that he and Chuck erected the day before. At 8:50 AM Rich made the first CW QSO with N4BP in Florida on 20 Meters while Chuck, Gary, and Pete completed the Moxon installation.

What about freezing? It was 34 degrees, calm, and sort of balmy when we began setting up the antennas and stations. Not too bad. However, a couple of hours into the event... the wind came up from the north... right off of the water. Soon after that the freezing began.

A number of CW contacts were made on 40 Meters in the next hour and propagation seemed promising until the number of stations dried up and the band began to fade. Then all of a sudden NQ7RP (the Arizona Scorpion's Club station) faded in. The W7DK CW station pounced, made contact, and received NQ7RP's info. Rich sent the exchange from W7DK, "NQ7RP-559-WA-RICK-5W-33F".

Continued on next page...



Above: Moxon Antenna Diagram

Rich was expecting a big fat "QSL" from the QRP Club station... but what was received was "SRI-QSB-TRY-AGN-LTR" Bummer!. Why Bummer? The contest rules say if contact with NQ7RP is made you can add 10,000 points to your score for each band. 40 Meters might not might be a good band again until it gets dark... after the contest is over.

In the mean time... the 20 Meter SSB station was underway and at 10:14 AM the first contact was made with Mike in Minnesota. Lots of MN and DE contacts were made because MN and DE each were having their state QSO parties. Lots of signals were coming in on 20 Meters from the QSO parties. Making contact with a BIG GUNS station with 5 watts of QRP power takes some patience and skill.

Gary WG7X, Chuck AC7QN, Alan W7AML, Al N7OMS, Pat WT7N all took turns to make contacts with the SSB QRP station. A total of 27 QSOs in 11 different states were made.

Pete and Rich took turns with the CW station to make contact in the QRP sections of 20 and 40 meters. This year the CW station made an unusually low amount of QSOs. 10 QSOs were made on 40 Meters and 9 were made on 20. After a couple of "SRI's" from NQ7RP... contact was finally made. The Scorpions gave Rich's signal a '239' after 5 repeats of the exchange. Poor propagation is blamed for the low numbers.... Not technical difficulties like last year.

W7DK's score is calculated as:
 $46 \text{ QSOs} \times 23 \text{ SPCs} \times 4 \text{ (temp=33)} \times 4 \text{ (field operation)} \times 2 \text{ (battery power)} = 33856 + 10000 \text{ (making contact with NQ7RP on 20M CW)} = 43,856 \text{ points.}$
 Last year the score was at 49,008 points.

It was nice to see a large number of club members stop by the picnic shelter and take part in this Ham Radio Adventure. Thanks to all for the support.

Next adventure: Field Day 2008. Get ready Cmdr Bob... Chuck and I want to operate the 20 Meter SSB station on batteries with 5 Watts.

Joe L (K7AWJ) thanks for bringing the donuts. Joe B... I wish you could of come down for a nice walk on the promenade. Bill and Judy... thanks for stopping by. It was good to see you, too, Sue. -30- Rich KR7W.



Chuck's Mil surplus poles are in the air. Now time to hoist up the Moxon antenna



Chuck hoists the wire elements of the Moxon in place.

Continued next page...



Chuck AC7QN makes some adjustment on the Moxon antennas wire element. Gary WG7X assists.



Pete (aka Pen) KK7QW finds gold doubloons in the surf while tying down one of the support strings for Chuck's antenna.



No hat... no gloves... is this FYBO? Rich KR7W operates the CW station before the wind started blowing in from the north.

ZENITH long distance Doublet Antenna System

improves radio reception of new or old receivers. The Zenith DX model Antenna System, designed by Zenith engineers, improves foreign reception and reduces man-made electrical disturbances so troublesome on the short waves. Also eliminates "dead-spots."

Genuine ZENITH Parts ATTENTION SERVICE MEN

Genuine, exact duplicate replacement parts are available for a period of five years after manufacture of any ZENITH RADIO. It's dangerous to gamble with your reputation by furnishing inferior parts on your ZENITH repairs. Write ZENITH for your nearest source of supply.

**There is a ZENITH Quality
Tube for every replacement
purpose**

**ZENITH RADIO CORP.
3620 Iron St., Chicago, U.S.A.**

ZENITH RADIO CORP.
3620 Iron St., Chicago, U.S.A.

Please send folder on Antenna; on
genuine Zenith Parts.

Name.....

Address.....

.....S.W.

F Y B O 2008



VE REPORT John AC7WW

Seventeen candidates and twelve Volunteer Examiners gathered at the Radio Club of Tacoma's clubhouse on Tuesday, January 8th 2008. All of the candidates went home with a new license or an upgrade. Thirty-two elements were graded with eighteen being passed.

Fourteen new Technician class amateurs joined the Amateur Radio Service. Two candidates advanced to General and one advanced to Extra class.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Harry, W7HSA
Al, AC7BU
Casey, WY7V
Larry, AB7FJ

Steve, KD7UBE
Rich, KK7VH
Bud, KE7GB
Roland, WA7P

Al, K7HW
Jon, AD7AW
Steve, AD7AB



Rogues gallery! From left: Bob KE7ECQ, Morel W6LIX, AL N7OMS, Worth W7WG and Pete KK7QW.



Happy Birthday**February**

| Day | Name | Call | RCT Number |
|------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Ollie Bond Jr | AD7CC | 2211 |
| 2 | Gwen Roberts-Root | KD7NES | 2085 |
| 8 | Albert Mitchell | KB7MPU | 2323 |
| 9 | Joe Pavia | KD7LJ | 853 |
| 10 | Rich Manson | N7ANF | 395 |
| 11 | Doug Oakman | AD7AV | 2141 |
| 12 | Steve Klinko | WB2LKI | 2283 |
| 14 | Bill Phillips Jr | KE7KJY | 2319 |
| 14 | Mark Terjeson | N7FIT | 1655 |
| 15 | Elaine Lyle | N7WGO | 2291 |
| 15 | Gary Kohtala | K7EK | 637 |
| 15 | Ken Gibson | N7ELF | 2300 |
| 16 | David Reed | WA5OK | 670 |
| 18 | Gail Jasmer-Wilson | KE7PFY | 2341 |
| 19 | Oliver Larsen | W7WIA | 604 |
| 21 | Pam Terjeson | KC7AZV | 1686 |
| 22 | Larry Law | KE7GCB | 2287 |
| 22 | Tressie Hughes | KC7BAL | 1684 |
| 24 | John Thomas | N7JFM | 1232 |
| 25 | Joe Baldassari | W7RQ | 2115 |
| 27 | Ed Root Jr | KC7OKS | 1879 |



MUSEUM MUSINGS

News from the Clifford J Doc Spike Museum

By Rich KR7W
ad hoc Museum Curator

Greetings from the Doc Spike Museum. This is the first column from the Museum to let Radio Club of Tacoma members and other readers know what is going on within and around the museum.

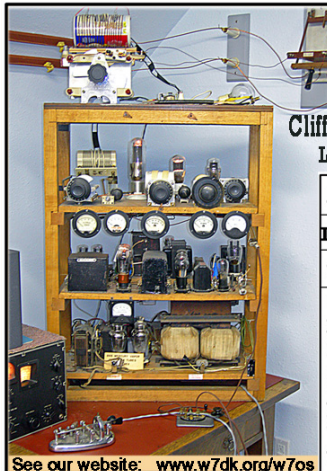
SKN... In the last issue of the Bark I wrote that Straight Key Night went well and the Museum station made a lot of QSOs. I am getting QSL cards from some of the hams who made contact with W7OS. I created a QSL card for the SKN effort and sent about 10 of them out. With the QSL card I included a three page write up similar to what was published in the last Bark. The write up shows photos of the CW operators whom they made contact with. I have received a few positive responses from the hams who received the write up.

SKCC News... On Jan 27 the Museum hosted Straight Key Century Club's anniversary call sign, K2A/7. Alan N7OMS was the originator of obtaining the Special Event call sign from the SKCC that is part of their celebration of their second anniversary. A number of QSOs were made from the museum on the old oak rig. There were a few positive responses to "ole chirpy" and one negative response on the SKCC Yahoo email group. I received a QSL card from that event and the ham thanked W7OS for taking him back to the early 60's to his Novice days.

Chirpy's Sick... Ole Chirpy has become ill... so ill that his frequency shifts quite a bit when keyed up. The negative remark on the SKCC Yahoo group noted that the CW carrier

signal was more like FSK (frequency shift keying) like RTTY.

While down at Owen Beach for the Freeze Your Buns Off contest... Pete KK7QW found Ole Chirpy being tuned up while he was looking for a station to make contact with. I came over to listen and heard the FSK signal. Later that day Morel W6LIX stopped by and I mentioned it to him and we agreed to take the



W7OS

Clifford J "Doc Spike" Antique Radio Museum
Located at the Radio Club of Tacoma

| A1 QSO With: | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------|
| Date | UTC | ~7050 KC |
| UR RST: | | UR OP: |
| Our Rig: 3 stage breadboard XMTR: 211 Final, 450V@45ma Homebrew appx year: 1938 RCVR: Hammarlund HQ120X Ant: 120 ft Ironwire Doublet Keys: Bug es SK of unknown orig. Vy 73s... | | |

See our website: www.w7dk.org/w7os

QSL card created for Straight Key Night. 18 cards were sent or handed out.

transmitter off of the air until it can be cleaned up. I suspect that the power supply voltage is low and the crystal oscillator has become unstable. We will be tuning up into a light bulb instead of the outside antenna until the problem is resolved.

Museum Budget... The museum group will be creating a budget to present to the February Board members to ask for funds for projects in 2008. Some of the items needed are:

1. Restoration parts: a few tubes and a lot of capacitors. These parts will be used to restore some of the more historic radios currently stored in the garage lock-up area.
2. QSL cards or media to produce our own QSL cards.

Continued next page

3. At least two books on antique radio restoration. New modern ideas to assist with putting life back into radios from the past.

PC for Museum... I have donated an old GSA Surplus PC (not that old) to the museum that has Kubuntu Linux (ham radio applications) installed on it. The plan for this PC is to use it in the museum for internet research for restoration projects once the club network project team delivers the Ethernet connection. We would like the PC to be discretely hidden away so visitors will be noticing the nice collection of old ham radios... not a modern PC. In order to make the PC more hidden we would like to use a small 15 inch flat screen monitor. So if you received an upgrade to your PC at home... and have that 15 inch flat screen monitor setting around in your way and gathering dust... The Museum could put it to use.



The small flat screen monitor could be placed in the Ole Timey Telegraphers desk without being noticed too much.

Museum Needs... Thanks to all who donated plastic containers for us to sort our parts into. NO MORE ARE NEEDED.

Remember Knob and Tube wiring insulators? The museum is in need of the 'knobs' part of the combination. As the copper feed line

travels across the ceiling on the south side of the room... it is currently supported with plastic electric fence insulators. We sure would like to make that part of the antenna system look older. We decided to replace the electric fence insulators with the KNOB insulators from the early 1900s to the 1940s. We have some now, but could use about 10 to 15 more.



The KNOB part of the knob and tube combo. The museum needs some of these.

There's still a lot of work still to do with the equipment in the attic storage space and it is gonna take a while to sort it out. If you have any ideas for the museum... please let me, Chuck AC7QN, Al N7OMS, and Pat WT7N know what you think.

That's it for this month's column. In closing... Please remember the purpose of the museum: To preserve the history and traditions of amateur radio.

Joe... stop by with your Drake equipment and we will take it apart and then test our memories.

Regards... Rich KR7W -30-



June 1941

SHACK OF THE MONTH THIS MONTH: WG7X

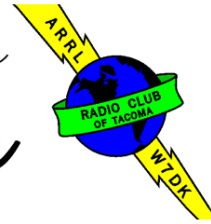


**PLEASE NOTE THE FROSTY MUG OF
BARLEY POP!**

A MUST FOR ALL SERIOUS SHACKS!



The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark



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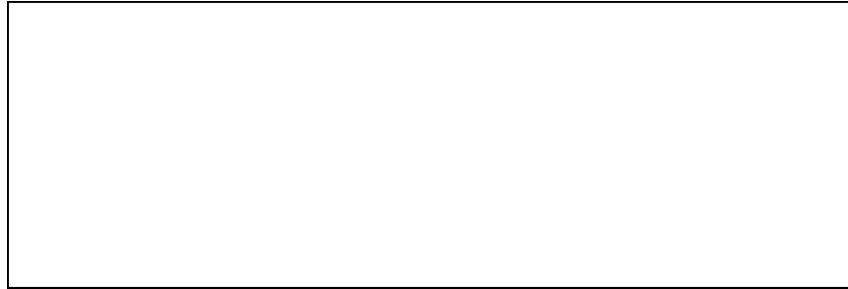
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RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 RCT Packet 144.91
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County) 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma 440.625 + PL=103.5

THE LOGGER'S BARK
Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

TO RCT MEMBER:



FEBRUARY 2008 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays February 13th and 27th at the library Administration building at 7:30 PM, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday February 6th 7:30 PM at the. Clubhouse - All members welcome.

License Testing - Tuesday February 12th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline - Last week-end of every month.. PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB